

was needed by an investigating committee.

When he passed away after the serious illness that he had for the last year or so, every person I knew in this House used the very words I have used to describe Steve. I know all of us will unanimously approve this legislation so that his name will be on that building as long as the United States Postal Service exists, which is hopefully going to be a very long time.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield whatever time he may want to utilize to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT).

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this piece of legislation. As the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) has just suggested, I think anybody who worked with Steve Schiff would use the same kind of words.

I sat with him on the Ethics Committee and watched him deal with matters affecting Members on both sides of the aisle. Steve always kept his eye on the view that he wanted to know what was right, what was the situation and how should it be remedied. It did not make any difference to him who it was. He was fair beyond what I think we see very often in this House.

I think that one of the things that is missing, Steve had a great sense of humor. When we were into some kind of tight spot in the Ethics Committee, he could always come up with a joke or some sort of wry phrase that would take the tension out of the situation.

In many ways, he was the finest example of what people should expect from Members of Congress. I think it is a real honor that we can give this honor to him today and to his family.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time either. And with final urging to honor as a unanimous body the deeds and the life of a great American and a fine human being, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill H.R. 3630, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, on that, I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 3630.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1891

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 1891.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

NANCY B. JEFFERSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2798) to redesignate the building of the United States Postal Service located at 2419 West Monroe Street, in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Nancy B. Jefferson Post Office Building."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2798

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION.

The building of the United States Postal Service located at 2419 West Monroe Street, in Chicago, Illinois, and known as the Midwest Post Office Building, shall be known and designated as the "Nancy B. Jefferson Post Office Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Nancy B. Jefferson Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2798 was introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), our distinguished colleague, who, indeed, serves on the Subcommittee on the Postal Service of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

The legislation was introduced November 4, 1997, and enjoys the cosponsorship of the entire House delegation from that State as pursuant to the policy of the full committee.

H.R. 2798 redesignates the building of the United States Postal Service located at 2419 West Monroe Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the Nancy B. Jefferson Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is here, and I certainly look forward to his comments, and I am sure he will detail what is a very interesting and, I think, a very admirable life. But I would simply note that many times

when we come to the floor of this House to extend this honor, the bills are brought on behalf of individuals who are known to their communities but often on a more wide basis as well.

The first two examples today, fully meritorious, of course, but did provide the opportunity to honor two gentlemen who, through their really unselfish actions in this House, were known way beyond the borders of their home communities.

We have before us today in these last two bills the opportunity to honor people who, perhaps, were not known over a wide geographic area but who made remarkable impacts in their communities, people who I think really do embody the spirit of this great country and tell the tale in many ways about how America has become the greatest democracy that the world has ever known.

Nancy Jefferson was a community organizer, one who is affectionately known as the Mother of the West Side. She led the fight to ensure equal rights for all people, the disabled, welfare recipients, single parents, the widowed, and the poor.

As I know we will hear, she acted from the time she overcame rather impressive obstacles as a young girl to her later years in public service some amazing challenges to be, in the lives of many, an inspiration and truly the kind of person, I think, that this House can be proud in bestowing the honor of a postal naming upon.

I have a great deal of pride and I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for allowing us to share in this moment.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me again thank the chairman of the subcommittee for his cooperation in these matters. H.R. 2798 is a naming bill that should enjoy the unanimous support of this House, for it does in such a very real way represent the naming of a facility in honor of someone who has improved the life chances of so many through her work and through her actions as a community organizer.

I want to use the time that I will exercise here really to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), my colleague, for bringing this matter to our attention; for it was through his extraordinary leadership and persistence that the House now today will consider this naming bill and the one that will follow.

It is, as the chairman mentioned, quite easy sometimes for us to proceed along a course when we are naming a facility after someone who all of us know or whose work that we are all familiar with, but the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), serving as the representative of the people of the Chicago and of the West Side, really worked tirelessly to have our committee act on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield whatever time that may be necessary to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for him to express the importance of this legislation prior to the House's final action on it.

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to express my appreciation to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH), the subcommittee chairman, and to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the ranking member, not only for the outstanding work that they do with this committee but also for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a heroine, a great "shero" in my district, Ms. Nancy B. Jefferson, who meant a great deal to the City of Chicago and to the State of Illinois.

Prior to her death on October 18, 1992, Nancy B. Jefferson was recognized as one of the premier grassroots community organizers in the Nation. She served as president and chief executive officer of the Midwest Community Council, a nonprofit grassroots community organization for more than 25 years.

She spent a lifetime helping others. She became a friend to the friendless and provided hope for the hopeless, which led to her being affectionately called the Mother Theresa of the West Side.

While serving as CEO of the Midwest Community Council, Ms. Jefferson led efforts to ensure equal rights and equal protection and equal justice for all people.

Her extensive exposure to social concerns as a nurse in a West Side clinic compelled her to do something about the ills of a community. She served as a champion for welfare recipients, the disabled, the poor, single parents, and those who were disenfranchised.

She dreamed of a day where the least and the left out of society would have a voice and adequate representation. To that end, she put together a network of more than 100 block clubs where there was not only an exchange of ideas but support for spiritual and physical development of the community.

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She sought to rebuild and transform decaying and dying communities. She developed several social service programs which are currently in place, including the Chicago Parent Union, and Crime and Parent Intervention.

Her commitment, dedication, and zeal for excellence netted her an appointment to the Chicago Police Board by former Mayor Jane Byrne. Governor Jim Edgar saw her talents and appointed her to the Illinois Human Rights Commission in 1990. She was also a confidante of the late Mayor Harold Washington.

She was, indeed, an individual who walked with kings and queens but

never lost the common touch. She left a legacy that raised standards and ensured that the poor had equal rights and equal opportunity. Hers was a light that shines bright with the words that there was hope, even in the midst of hopelessness.

She was the essence of what democracy is all about. I am delighted to have introduced this bill to name a United States post office in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH).

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it should be clear that, along with the rules and precedents set by our subcommittee, that this has been a piece of legislation that has been jointly cosponsored by all of the members of the Illinois delegation.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would, first of all, note the addition to my comment about Mother Teresa. I think that is even more appropriate, although certainly the accolade of being a mother to a community is high praise, indeed. But that even, it seems to me, reflects more clearly the high regard, the respect and admiration that this community held this great woman in. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2798.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2798.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

RETURN TO HOUSE AFTER MEDICAL LEAVE

(Mr. BATEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well of the House to make what is, at least for me, a very happy an-

nouncement. The announcement is that I have ended the medical leave of absence that has prevented me from participating in the normal activities of the House.

To my colleagues and so many others who since my surgery on April 17 have remembered me in their prayers and expressed their concern for my recovery, I wish to say, thank you. Your prayers have been answered. The medical prognosis is that when I have fully recovered from the lung surgery, my pulmonary and cardiovascular systems should be stronger than before I entered the hospital and that no further medical treatment is needed. For this, I am truly blessed and deeply grateful.

I would like to express my appreciation to our attending physician, Dr. John Eisold; to a remarkable thoracic surgeon, Dr. Edward Zech, and his staff at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland; to Dr. David Ferguson, a cardiologist on the staff of the National Naval Medical Center; and to Dr. William Harris and his staff, who treated me at Riverside Hospital in my hometown of Newport News, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rejoin my colleagues of the House and to more fully share in the work of the people's House.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, while on medical leave of absence, I missed the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall votes: 100—Yea; 101—Yea; 102—Nay; 103—Nay; 104—Nay; 105—Nay; 106—Nay; 107—Yea; 108—Yea; 109—Nay; 110—Yea; 111—Yea; 112—Yea; 113—Nay; 114—Yea; 115—Nay; 116—Yea; 117—Yea; 118—Nay; and 119—Yea.

120—Yea; 121—Yea; 122—Nay; 123—Nay; 124—Nay; 125—Yea; 126—Yea; 127—Yea; 128—Yea; 129—Yea; 130—Yea; 131—Yea; 132—Nay; 133—Yea; 134—Yea; 135—Yea; 136—Nay; 137—Nay; 138—Yea; 139—Yea; 140—Yea; 141—Yea; 142—Yea; 143—Yea; 144—Yea; 145—Yea; 146—Nay; and 147—Nay.

148—Yea; 149—Yea; 150—Yea; 151—Yea; 152—Nay; 153—Yea; 154—Yea; 155—Nay; 156—Nay; 157—Nay; 158—Nay; 159—Nay; 160—Yea; 161—Yea; 162—Yea; 163—Yea; 164—Yea; 165—Yea; 166—Yea; 167—Yea; 168—Yea; 169—Yea; 170—Yea; 171—Nay; 172—Yea; 173—Yea; 174—Yea; and 175—Yea.

176—Yea; 177—Yea; 178—Yea; 179—Yea; 180—Nay; 181—Yea; 182—Nay; 183—Yea; 184—Nay; 185—Nay; 186—Yea; 187—Nay; 188—Nay; 189—Yea; 190—Yea; 191—Yea; and 192—Yea.

REVEREND MILTON R. BRUNSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2799) to redesignate the building of the United States Postal Service located at 324 South Laramie Street, in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Reverend Milton R. Brunson Post Office Building."